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Group Art Unit: 1744

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below in the complete listing of claims.

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A portable surface cleaning apparatus, comprising:

a base housing adapted for movement along a surface to be cleaned;

an upright handle pivotally mounted to the base housing;

a liquid dispensing system comprising:

a liquid dispenser mounted on the base ~~housing module~~ for applying liquid to a surface to be cleaned;

a liquid supply tank removably mounted to the handle or base housing for holding a supply of cleaning liquid;

a liquid supply conduit fluidly connected to the liquid supply tank and to the dispenser for supplying liquid to the dispenser;

a liquid recovery system comprising:

a recovery tank removably mounted on the base housing or handle and having a liquid recovery chamber for holding recovered liquid;

a suction nozzle ~~mounted to associated with~~ the base housing and adapted to draw dirty liquid from the surface to be cleaned;

a working air conduit extending between the recovery chamber and the suction nozzle;

a vacuum source in fluid communication with the recovery chamber for generating a flow of working air from the nozzle through the working air conduit and through the recovery chamber to thereby draw dirty liquid from the surface to be cleaned through the nozzle and working air conduit, and into the recovery chamber to thereby recover the dirty liquid from the surface to be cleaned;

an electrical cord mounted to the handle and connected to the vacuum source; and

upper and lower cord wraps in spaced apart, ~~axially aligned~~ relationship along a cord wrap axis on the handle for wrapping an electrical cord in a loop;

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the improvement comprising:

the electrical cord is mounted to the handle and projects from the handle in a direction in substantial ~~axial~~ alignment with the cord wrap axis and ~~the~~ at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps, and a strain relief collar mounted on the electrical cord at the handle and projecting from the handle in in a direction in substantial ~~axial~~ alignment with the ~~the~~ at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps along the cord wrap axis so that the electrical cord projects from the handle in a relatively straight line between the handle and ~~the~~ at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps.

12. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaning apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the strain relief collar is formed of an elastomeric material.

Claims 13-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A portable surface cleaning apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the strain relief collar projects from the handle in in a direction along the cord wrap ~~axial~~ alignment with the upper and lower cord wraps.

18. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaning apparatus according to claim 17 wherein the strain relief collar is mounted below the lower cord wrap and projects toward the upper and lower cord wraps.

19. (Currently Amended) A portable surface cleaning apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the strain relief collar is mounted below the lower cord wrap and projects toward the lower and upper cord wraps.

20. (Currently Amended) A portable surface cleaner comprising:
a base housing adapted for movement along a surface to be cleaned;
an upright handle pivotally mounted to the base housing;
a suction nozzle ~~associated with~~ mounted to the base housing and adapted to draw dirt from the surface to be cleaned;

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a vacuum source in fluid communication the suction nozzle for drawing air through the suction nozzle;

an electrical cord mounted to the handle and connected to the vacuum source; and

upper and lower cord wraps in spaced apart, ~~axially aligned~~ relationship along a cord wrap axis on the handle for wrapping ~~on the~~ electrical cord in a loop

the improvement comprising:

the electrical cord is mounted to the handle at a location in substantial ~~axial~~ alignment with the ~~upper and lower cord wraps~~ axis and projects from the handle in a direction in substantial ~~axial~~ alignment with at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps so that the electrical cord projects from the handle in a relatively straight line between the handle and the at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps.

21. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaner according to claim 20 and further comprising a strain relief collar mounted on the electrical cord at the handle and projecting from the handle toward the at least one of the upper and lower cord wraps.

22. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaner according to claim 21 wherein the strain relief collar is formed of an elastomeric material.

23. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaner according to claim 21 wherein the electrical cord is mounted below the lower cord wrap and projects toward both the upper and lower cord wraps.

24. (Previously Presented) A portable surface cleaner according to claim 20 wherein the electrical cord is mounted below the lower cord wrap and projects toward both the upper and lower cord wraps.

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